

THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

ISSUED BY THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

20 APRIL 1964
~~TOP SECRET~~

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1. Laos

a. The leaders of yesterday's precipitate coup are backing off and moving to restore Souvanna Phouma.

b. Souvanna, whose "resignation" was announced by the coup leaders, has indicated a willingness to stay on. He feels, however, that a new government is necessary since the coup ended his original one.

c. This morning, Souvanna, accompanied by rightist military leaders, was en route to Luang Prabang for an audience with King Savang. Phoumi says that the King will name Souvanna to head a new tripartite government. We are not sure how Souvanna really feels about this or how the conversations with the King will come out.

d. The degree of Phoumi's involvement in yesterday's action is obscure. It appears that the whole thing was largely the initiative of his strong-arm aide, General Siho, who seems to have jumped the gun on contingency plans to step in in the event of a Souvanna withdrawal. Phoumi claims he is "disgusted" with Siho.

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e. General Kouprasith, named as the head of the coup group, clearly was no more than a bewildered front man. Ambassador Unger thought both Kouprasith and Siho were acting like "badly frightened little boys."

f. Kong Le is playing both sides of the street. He told a US official just after the coup action that he would like to work with the coup group,

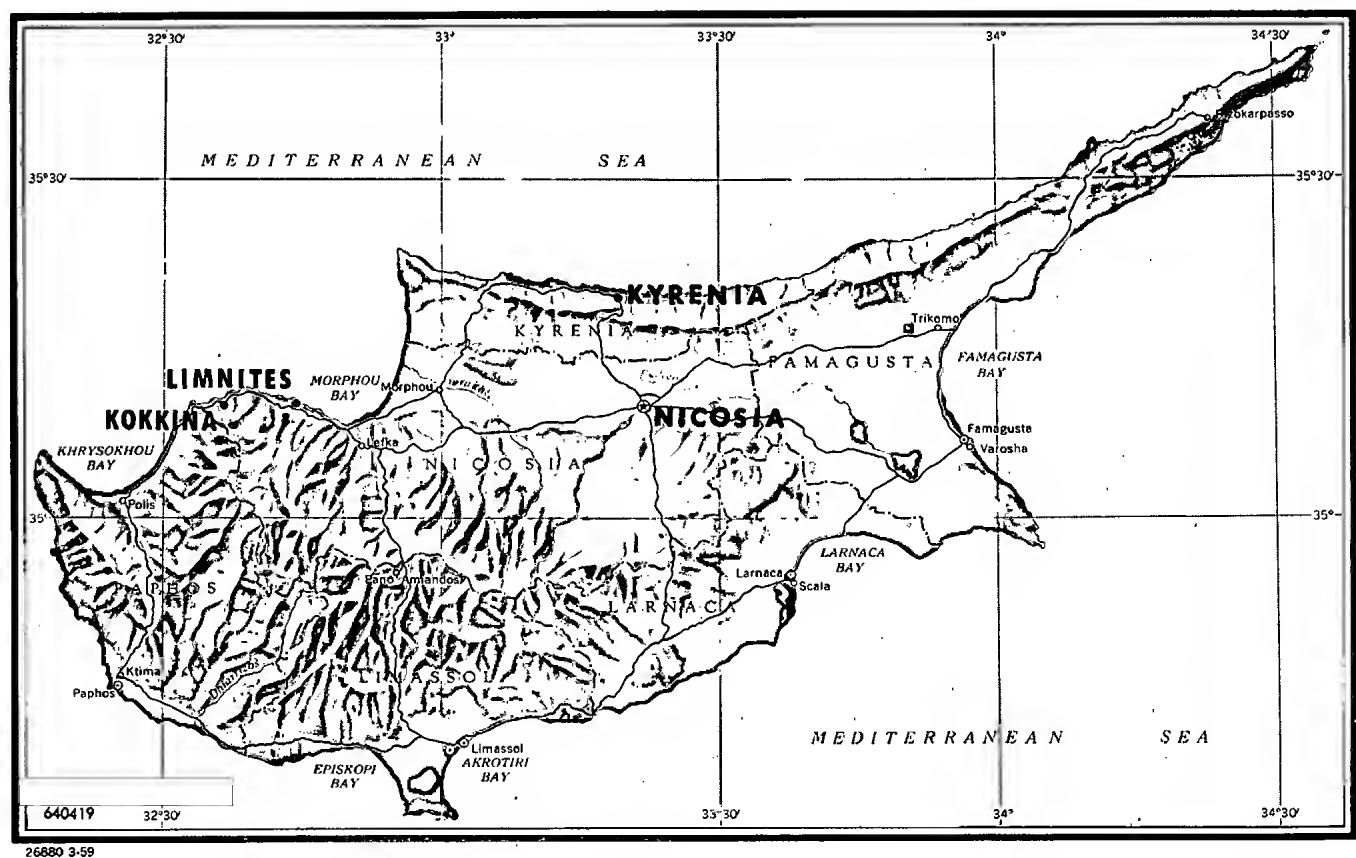
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2. South Korea

a. Steady rain on yesterday's anniversary of the Rhee ouster dampened student ardor. Demonstrations marking the event failed to get up a full head of steam.

b. The government, however, does not feel that it is in the clear. A government official told Embassy Seoul that the government, which has handled the students with kid gloves so far, is now determined to crack down hard.

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CYPRUS

- ⊗ Capital
 - District boundary
 - District administrative seat
 - Road
- 0 5 10 15 20 25 Miles
0 5 10 15 20 25 Kilometers

c. The regime has just issued an order banning all "illegal"--i.e., student--demonstrations. Students defying this ban are to be seized. Pak is evidently prepared to go further by declaring martial law and closing the universities if the students prove obstreperous.

d. As we go to press, students are reported to be demonstrating in the streets in defiance of the order. If this continues and Pak follows through as indicated, the stage will be set for real trouble.

3. Cyprus

a. There were no major breaches of the uneasy peace this weekend.

b. Pot shots are being taken nightly at the UN force. A Canadian unit, after issuing a warning, has fired at Greek Cypriots wearing bogus UN blue helmets. The British UN contingent was involved in two weekend scrapes which had strong anti - Greek Cypriot overtones.

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d. Concern is growing in Athens over the Turkish campaign against Greeks in Turkey. There is talk of reprisals against the deportation tomorrow of two Orthodox bishops associated with Patriarch Athenagoras.

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D. Ghana-USSR

[REDACTED] a Soviet major general has been named military attache in Accra. The upgrading of this job could mean that the Soviets are going to provide the arms Nkrumah has been after for some time. Adding to this possibility is the presence in Moscow since last Friday of the Ghanaian defense minister.

(Cont'd)

E. Gabon Although the elections a week ago Sunday turned out about as expected, they solved nothing for either Mba or the French. Ambassador Darlington believes that the situation will remain unsettled, and the French will need troops in Gabon to keep Mba in power.

F. Cuba-Cambodia A Cuban Foreign Ministry official is due in Phnom Penh today.

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